

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An inflatable toy apparatus, comprising:  
an inflatable elongated body having a length, a front end and a rear end;  
[[a]] an elongated gripping piece that is provided along a portion of the length of the elongated body;  
a nose piece fixedly secured to the front end of the elongated body, the nose piece made from a material that is different from that of the elongated body; and  
a plurality of tails provided at the rear end of the elongated body.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tails are made from a material that is different from that of the elongated body.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tails are made from a material that is the same as that of the elongated body.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the tails are curved.
5. (Currently Amended) [[The apparatus of claim 1,]] An inflatable toy apparatus, comprising:  
an inflatable elongated body having a length, a front end and a rear end;  
a gripping piece that is provided along a portion of the length of the elongated body;  
a nose piece fixedly secured to the front end of the elongated body, the nose piece made from a material that is different from that of the elongated body; and  
a plurality of tails provided at the rear end of the elongated body;  
further including a plurality of winglets provided on the nose piece.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein one of the tails has a tail piece provided to cover portions of the one of the tails, the tail piece being made from a material that is different from that of the the one of the tails.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the tails and the elongated body are inflatable at the same time.

8-27. (Canceled)

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the inflatable elongated body has a nozzle through which air is introduced into the body.

29-31. (Canceled).